

Dec. 19,2001

Box Patent Application Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Attention: Mr. Mark Poluta

Dear Sir:

Receipt date

Receipt date

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1th the form This letter is to request a filing date of 11/27/01 on my patent application, appn.# 10/002763 entitled `'Picking Rake''.

Last Nov. 27, 2001, I went to the post office with the intention of mailing my application via Express Mail so that I could get an instant filing date of 11/27/01. However, I was informed that Express Mail service to the patent offices was temporarily suspended due to the recent anthrax scare. They suggested that I just send it by priority mail which I reluctantly did, having no other choice. I also placed on one of the transmittal forms a couple of yellow post-it notes that the post office provided. I indicated on the post-it notes that since there was no Express Mail service to your address that day, I was advised to send the application by priority mail instead and that I requested an W.C. instant filing date of 11/27/01.

The 11/27/01 filing date is crucial for me because I am

claiming the benefit of a provisional patent application ser.# 60/253.552 filed 11/28/00.

A copy of the dated priority mail receipt is printed on this letter.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully yours, Mary Ahn Caneba

Title of Invention: Picking Rake

Application No. 10/002763

(Applicant)

Address: 302 W. Jacker Ave. Houghton, MI. 49931

Tel. No. (906)482-6954

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> BOX PATENT APPLICATION ASSISTANT COMMISIONER FOR

(Article Sent Tu: (to be completed by maller)